

REMARKS

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §103

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,335,719 to An in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,881,299 to Nomura. Applicant respectfully disagree with the Examiner but, in the interest of passing this case to issue, have canceled claim 1-11 without prejudice and expressly reserving the right to present these claims in a related application.

Claims 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nomura in view of An. Applicants respectfully disagree and note that neither Nomura nor An disclose, at the very least, the presently claimed driving the first and second zones respectively with frame inversion and line inversion.

Nomura teaches two display areas 1 and 2 formed on the display panel 18a, as shown in Fig. 3. However, Nomura does not teach that the display areas 1 and 2 are respectively driven by two different driving types, namely frame inversion and line inversion.

Similarly, referring to the Background section of An (col. 1, ll. 25-31), three liquid crystal panel driving methods are described as known in the art: frame inversion, line inversion, and dot inversion. An discloses a liquid crystal panel 10 divided into a plurality of blocks, and teaches that the polarities of the data signal applied to the liquid crystal cells in the liquid crystal panel 10 are inverted every frame, every block, and every dot (col. 4, ll. 4-8). Thus, An makes clear that the liquid crystal panel 10 is driven by dot inversion. Moreover (as shown, e.g., in Fig. 4) in An, all blocks are also driven by the same type of inversion: dot inversion. Thus, all blocks of An are driven by the same type of inversion (dot inversion). Thus, although An does teach a liquid crystal panel divided into a plurality of blocks and the driving type by which the liquid crystal panel is driven, An does not teach that the plurality of blocks are driven by different driving types, i.e. frame inversion and line inversion.

Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner of the requirements posited by MPEP 2143.03 that “[t]o establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art. *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA

1970)." (emphasis added) As discussed above, the combination of Nomura and An does not in fact disclose all claim limitations, and for this reason Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 is novel and nonobvious over the art, and request the Examiner to kindly reconsider and pass this claim to issue.

Claims 13-15 depend from claim 12. "If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious." *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claim 12, Applicants submit that claims 13-15 are also allowable.

Claim 16 recites a first zone driven with line inversion and a second zone driven with frame inversion. Thus, the above discussion of claim 12 is equally relevant to the patentability of claim 16, which Applicants submit is therefore also allowable.

Claim 17 depends from claim 16, and Applicants thus submit that this claim is also allowable.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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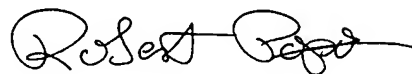


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Respectfully submitted,



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